



Nikki Ezhari &lt;nikki.ezhari@lacity.org&gt;

## GWHFC transgender client

3 messages

**ted landreth** <  
To: Nikki Ezhari <nikki.ezhari@lacity.org>

Wed, Apr 27, 2016 at 7:35 AM

Dear Nikki,

Would you be willing to help with the following? I haven't heard back from John Darnell, and, as usual, our client is in a risk situation. If the Housing Authority doesn't move at the speed of the market – which is to say as fast as possible – the apartment could easily go to somebody else.

Love,

Ted

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **ted landreth** >  
Date: Tue, Apr 26, 2016 at 9:39 AM  
Subject: GWHFC transgender client  
To: John Darnell <john.darnell@lacity.org>  
Cc: Stephanie Rojas <stephanie.rojas@lacity.org>

Dear John,

GWHFC transgender client again – almost there this time.

After suffering from Housing Authority stasis and multiple cases of apparent housing discrimination since early February, [REDACTED] are at last ready to move into a one-bedroom apartment with a HACLA Section 8 voucher, but HACLA now seems to be dragging its feet. Their new caseworker there, a Ms. Baker on [REDACTED] has told their old caseworker Kelli Su that they are not likely to be able to move in until May 15 at the earliest.

All it takes is scheduling an inspection. GWHFC will take care of the move-in money. It could all be done this week – which is what Kelli Su promised Maya last week.

Would you be willing to give Ms. Baker the requisite nudge, or to have Stephanie do it? I have a feeling that HACLA can never be counted on to do anything unless they know you're looking over their shoulder, but you would think they'd be a little bit more sensitive these days in the case of a transgender female. Don't they read the newspaper?

With best regards, as ever,

Ted

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **ted landreth** <  
Date: Thu, Feb 11, 2016 at 8:50 AM  
Subject: [REDACTED] and HACLA today  
To: Stephanie Rojas <stephanie.rojas@lacity.org>  
Cc: Gina Kirkland <  
[REDACTED]

Dear Stephanie,

Kelli Su of the Housing Authority called [REDACTED] yesterday and told her that she was waiting to hear from you about [REDACTED] case. I emailed John Darnell about it after you and I spoke the other day (see below), and it still seems to me that a word from you or John might cause Kelli, ET AL, to do the right thing, which is to say clear the way for [REDACTED] common-law Tannan to move into a Section 8 apartment with her pending their getting married, which they very much intend to do. They've lived together, for the most part in the street, for over seven years.



6/14/2016

City of Los Angeles Mail - GWHFC transgender client Maya Johnson

does not now appear on voucher because of some bad advice she got from the private homeless services provider in Long Beach which helped her get the voucher.

That said, is in many respects mainstay. He has worked full-time at the same job for three years. He is a solid citizen. And although herself has been offered a job at Target the minute they have a permanent place to live, is the source of most of their income. All of that can be taken into account by the Housing Authority in a simple adjustment to the voucher after the fact, but if Kelli Su, ET AL object to any of it in the meantime, are likely to remain homeless because of their objections.

Here's hoping you are still willing to play a role in helping them. As I see it, all this is really just a question of common sense overriding self-defeating bureaucratic procedures.

With best regards,

Ted

██████████ cellular

## one more whack for

Feb 7 (4 days ago)

ted landreth

to John

Dear John,

Could I call you for a five-minute chat first thing tomorrow Monday morning -- about the problem GWHFC transgender client and her common-law my continue to have with the City Housing Authority? I think Stephanie has done her best, but I think what is required is some of your clear thinking.

The object is to move off the street TOGETHER, since they've been together for all of seven years, and not stand on undue ceremony because his name isn't currently on her Section 8 voucher.

Here's hoping you're willing to give this one more good whack. We are taking care of the problem of Kelli Su at HACLA not being about to talk to you and Stephanie for reasons of privacy.

As ever,

Ted

██████████ cellular

PS - Did you see the following on Buzzfeed Friday? The Homeless Strategy, as I guess you know, goes up for a vote in the full Council on Tuesday, with Martin Schoeller's portraits of our clients illustrating each of the ten sections of it.

<http://www.buzzfeed.com/lynzybilling/when-a-celebrity-photographer-turns-his-lens-to-homeless-peo#.sx0kzdAkzv>

On Wed, Feb 3, 2016 at 11:08 AM, ted landreth <[landrethassociates@gmail.com](mailto:landrethassociates@gmail.com)> wrote:

Dear Stephanie,

No word from Kelli Su at the Housing Authority? Maya expects to hear from the property manager at any time now.

As ever,

Ted

██████████ On Tue, Feb 2, 2016 at 3:13 PM, ted landreth

> wrote:



Dear Stephanie,

This might not have occurred to you, but the Section 8 program contemplates changes in the client's income and in his (or her) living situation AFTER a move-in. The client is simply required to report it within the quarter in which it happens, so that the share of his (or her) rent can be adjusted up or down.

Which is to say, the easiest way to deal with this, as I see it, is for HACLA to tell [REDACTED] that she has to report [REDACTED] income, as well as her new income from TARGET when she takes the job there. [REDACTED] would then appear on her voucher as a wage earner with her. Her Section 8 voucher now shows her to have no income other than GR.

Easy as that, wouldn't you say? The alternative, in the meantime, is nothing short of draconian.

We are all holding our breath at this end.

Mil gracias.

Ted

On Tue, Feb 2, 2016 at 12:11 PM, ted landreth [REDACTED]

► wrote:

Dear Stephanie,

You are UN RELAMPAGO! (I grew up in Havana.) Not only do you pounce, but as it would appear you ask for a report back TODAY. You are, well and truly, one of us.

We are all saying a prayer.

With love, as always,

Ted

On Tue, Feb 2, 2016 at 12:06 PM, Stephanie Rojas <[stephanie.rojas@lacity.org](mailto:stephanie.rojas@lacity.org)> wrote:

Good Afternoon Ted,

I just wanted to let you know that I spoke to Kelli and let her know that we were interested in how things would work out for them and how our office could help. She did state that the information is confidential but that she would get back to me with further information about their case later.

Best Regards,

On Tue, Feb 2, 2016 at 11:54 AM, John Darnell <[john.darnell@lacity.org](mailto:john.darnell@lacity.org)> wrote:

We'll take it Ted. La Brea Ave/Melrose Ave is our area.

Stephanie, Kelli Su of HACLA who can be reached on

:?



John Darnell  
District Director  
Office of Los Angeles City Councilmember Paul Koretz  
Westside Field Office: [\(323\) 866-1828](tel:(323)866-1828)  
Valley Field Office: [\(818\) 971-3088](tel:(818)971-3088)  
Email: [john.darnell@lacity.org](mailto:john.darnell@lacity.org)

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On Tue, Feb 2, 2016 at 11:48 AM, ted landreth <  
Dear John and Nikki,

> wrote:

The GWHFC has another problem with HACLA which I think you might be able to help us with, as follows. The only trouble with it (again) is that something has to be done now – today.

At stake are our longtime homeless clients – she a fully transitioned transgender woman, and he her common law husband who has every intention of marrying her in a church wedding as soon as they get off the street.

They are expecting to hear tomorrow that they have been accepted as Section 8 tenants in a lovely one-bedroom apartment on Market Street in Inglewood, but today Kelli Su of HACLA (who can be reached on [REDACTED] has told them that [REDACTED] will not be able to live in the apartment because they are not yet legally married and his name is not on the Section 8 voucher. This in spite of what I say about them above. They have been living together for the past seven years, most recently in a tent near La Brea and Melrose. [REDACTED] has a full-time job which he's had for three years, and Maya has been offered a job at TARGET on La Brea as soon as she has a permanent place to live.

If the Housing Authority won't budge, they will lose the apartment, and as you well know it AINT EASY to find a good Section 8 apartment these days. I was with them when they lost another one in the Crenshaw District last week, in what we all agreed was probably a case of gender discrimination.

Please help if you can. Interestingly, we have never had a problem of this kind with the County Housing Authority. Just the other day, in fact, a longtime client of ours for whom we had gotten an apartment in West Hollywood six years ago called to say that his common law wife had died, and she was on the Section 8 voucher – not he – so he thought he might be in trouble. No such thing: the County Housing Authority changed the voucher to add his name to it and didn't skip a beat in the process.

One thing is the noxious legalism which makes it that much harder to help the homeless, and another is just plain common sense. What, after all, is the extent of the risk in the case of [REDACTED] Near zero, I would say, as far as HACLA is concerned, but it's practically total for them. With El Nino upon us and with the opportunity to house a transgender woman who has been discriminated against since she declared herself at age 15, shouldn't HACLA bend over backwards?

With love to you both, and here's hoping.

Ted

[REDACTED] cellular

On Fri, Dec 18, 2015 at 8:18 PM, ted landreth <  
Dear John and Nikki and Esteven – and Stephanie,

> wrote:

I don't know which of you can claim credit or what you did to deserve it, but Veronica Jacinto suddenly materialized early this afternoon and did what we had expected her to do two weeks ago, and Philip and I dashed to Compton so that he could sign his lease just under the wire.

All's well that ends well, but if any of you should want to deconstrcut exactly what went wrong in the first place I would of course like to tell you what i know.. Remember that I am a journalist first and a volunteer second.

For now, Merry Christmas to you all, and thank you no matter what. I have never seen anybody quite so happy or quite so relieved as [REDACTED] n, a disabled homeless veteran now permanently housed.

Sincerely,

Ted

On Thu, Dec 17, 2015 at 10:36 PM, ted landreth <  
Dear Stephanie,

> wrote:



6/14/2016

City of Los Angeles Mail - GWHFC transgender client Maya Johnson

The direct line for Veronica Jacinto at HACLA is

One other thing: Philip says the deadline problem (tomorrow) isn't exactly what I said it was, but it has the same effect. The property manager (Myra) told Philip she is leaving at the end of the day on a three week vacation.

We of the GWHFC simply can't afford to continue paying Philip's rent at a motel for another three weeks when Federal Government money which is available to HACLA and to which he is entitled is going unspent.

Please call me as early in the day as you can if you've been able to figure out how to avert this needless catastrophe, or if there is anything else either Philip or I can do to help him.

Again sincerely,

Ted

On Thu, Dec 17, 2015 at 5:14 PM, Ted Landreth

> wrote:

Dear John and Nikki,

Thank you both for jumping-to  
on this unfortunate business. Philip talked to the property manager today, whose  
name is Myra, and she said (1) she had not heard from Veronica Jacinto or anybody else at HACLA since the  
apartment passed inspection two weeks ago, and (2) if HACLA doesn't close the deal with her by tomorrow  
she will rent the apartment to somebody else, which is to say, Philip will be seriously out of luck. It took  
nearly three months for him to find the apartment in the first place, with the GWHFC and PATH  
both pulling out all stops.

If you can turn this around between today and tomorrow, you will be major heroes to us all. If you can't what  
a downer.

With best regards and again Merry Christmas to you both,

Ted

cellular

PS - Myra's phone numbers are

Pls note I am also  
copying Estevan Montemayor in Councilian Dawson-Harris's office, who promised to help earlier this week –  
and Philip.

Sent from my iPhone

On Dec 17, 2015, at 3:51 PM, John Darnell <[john.darnell@lacity.org](mailto:john.darnell@lacity.org)> wrote:

Hi Ted,

Nikki and talked and our office has agreed to help with this case. I have copied my colleague,  
Stephanie Rojas, who will be assisting you with this.

Stephanie, can you please call Ted and get any more pertinent info you might need?

Happy Holidays,

John Darnell  
District Director  
Office of Los Angeles City Councilmember Paul Koretz  
Westside Field Office: (323) 866-1828  
Valley Field Office: (818) 971-3088  
Email: [john.darnell@lacity.org](mailto:john.darnell@lacity.org)





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On Thu, Dec 17, 2015 at 8:59 AM, ted landreth <[mailto:ted.landreth@landreth.com](#)> wrote:  
Dear John and Nikki,

The other day I asked Councilman Dawson-Harris's press secretary to call Veronica Jacinto at the City Housing Authority and ask her why it's taking her so long to close the deal on a VASH apartment for GWHFC client F [REDACTED] a disabled veteran.  
He says he would, but it doesn't seem to have made any difference.

Philip found the apartment a month ago, but it took HACLA two weeks to inspect it, and although it passed they have still not closed the deal with the landlord. Philip says he understands there might be a \$30 difference between the rent the landlord wants and the VASH rent ceiling.

We of the GWHFC are always impatient when public servants drag their feet in a case like this, and I must say it happens all-too often. Does Ms. Jacinto NOT know what it is to be homeless? A good question. I told the press secretary I was tempted to put on my journalist's hat and publish the answer.

Please help if you can. And Merry Christmas to you both, no matter what.

As ever,

Ted

[REDACTED] cellular





Stephanie Rojas  
 Case Worker - West Los Angeles Office  
 Councilmember Paul Koretz  
 6380 Wilshire Blvd., Suite 800  
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 (323) 866-1828  
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Nikki Ezhari <[nikki.ezhari@lacity.org](mailto:nikki.ezhari@lacity.org)>  
 To: ted landreth <[landrethassociates@gmail.com](mailto:landrethassociates@gmail.com)>

Wed, Apr 27, 2016 at 5:18 PM

I've left her a message

COUNCILMEMBER • DISTRICT 4  
**DAVID RYU**  
 SERVING OUR NEIGHBORHOODS

**Nikki Ezhari, J.D.**  
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Nikki Ezhari <[nikki.ezhari@lacity.org](mailto:nikki.ezhari@lacity.org)>  
 To: ted landreth <[landrethassociates@gmail.com](mailto:landrethassociates@gmail.com)>

Thu, Apr 28, 2016 at 4:13 PM

I spoke with her and they are going through the process as quickly as possible and the soonest she can be in, if everything goes well is May 15th.

COUNCILMEMBER • DISTRICT 4  
**DAVID RYU**  
 SERVING OUR NEIGHBORHOODS

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